

Using the Internet for Promoting Environmental Stewardship at WDNR

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Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) manages over 2 million acres of state-owned aquatic lands, including 30% of beaches and all subtidal areas of Puget Sound. The Aquatics Program has staff working throughout Washington State, and as a result there is a need to provide consistent and up-to-date “Best Available Science” to decision makers over a wide area. WDNR addressed this need by developing an intragency Stewardship website. The Stewardship website was designed jointly between WDNR Aquatics Division and Region staff, basing the effort on components of WDNR statutory requirements for Aquatic lands management guidelines as outlined in RCW 79.90.455. We intend to use this effort to test existing tools WDNR uses to facilitate decision-making, to assist with implementation of policies and guidelines, employment of best management practices, and existing statutes and rules in conjunction with federal state and local regulatory programs. We will also discuss tools used to develop a web site such as: bulletin boards, references, glossaries, fostering communication, etc. Last of all, we will briefly discuss some software tools most useful for developing the website including: Dreamweaver; Powerpoint; Photoshop; animation techniques, and Bryce Landscape software.